Form college management committees, CM orders

By Our Reporter

LAHORE, Jan 1: Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif has directed the provincial higher education department to form college management committees (CMCs) on the pattern of school management committees (SMCs) to effectively supervise colleges' activities, their buildings repair and maintenance.

The chief minister issued the directions after a briefing by Punjab Higher Education Secretary Dr Shahzad Qaiser on Friday.

Reviewing the examination system, Shahbaz Sharif asked the department to finalize the computer process as early as possible. He stressed that major portion of the results of matric examination, commencing from March 6, should definitely be computerized.

He called for revamping the secrecy and conduct branches of the education boards to stop leakage of question papers.

Dr Qaiser told the chief minister that out of 3,882 impersonators and candidates involved in other offences who were arrested during matriculation and intermediate examinations in the province last year, some 300 have been sentenced.

The Punjab Examination Authority will soon give presentation on the measures it took last year to revamp the examination system.

Shahbaz also called for legislation to refrain teachers from running tuition centres. He also vowed to discourage guess-papers and punish their compilers. He stressed that entry test be started in all higher educational institutions, besides revamping MBBS examinations.

Dr Qaiser briefed the chief minister that last year, the higher education department provided books worth Rs 30 million to different universities and colleges' libraries in the province.

Shahbaz Sharif directed that a complete network of libraries equipped with computers and internet be established. He appointed former chief secretary Mukhtar Masood to supervise the project.

Training workshops for college teachers would be organized during summer vacation. The teachers who will conduct research and have publications will be acknowledged.

The posting and transfer policy will remain the same as transfers on wedlock basis will continue.

Punjab Education Minister Zulfiqar Ahmad Dhillon, chief secretary A Z K Sherdil, secretary finance, secretary schools, chairman P&D, IG Police, Punjab University vice-chancellor, education task force chairman, parliamentary secretary on education, chairmen of all the eight boards of intermediate and secondary education in the province and senior educationists were present on the occasion.